(b) whether people or institutions have not been able to take advantage of Central Governments matching grants for construction of stadium and sports facilities;

(c) if so, how does Government propose to relax the present conditions; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. In fact 63 projects sponsord by non governmental organisations have been sanctioned grants during the last three financial years.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Sports Scholarships in Universities and Schools

2918. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the number of sports scholarships in Universities and schools;

(b) whether there is any such proposal under consideration; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK:) (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Shortage of Swimming Pools in the country

2919. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of Olympic standard swimming pools in the country;

(b) how does Government propose to encourage acquatic sports;

(c) what are the steps Government propose to encourage construction more swimming pools;

(d) whether liberal finances will be made available to State Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) Yes, Sir, However, Olympic standard swimming pools are mainly required for competition and training needs can be met by swimming pools of smaller sizes also.

(b) To encourage aquatic sports, Government is giving financial assistance to concerned National Federations namely Swimming Federation of India, Yachting Association of India, Rowing Federation of India, and Indian Kayaking & Canoeing Association.

Sports Authority of India identifies talented sports persons and trains them in 11 schools adopted for swimming discipline under National Sports Talent Contest Scheme, 4 Army Boys Sports Companies and 3 Sports Hostels. In addition to this, Sports Authority of India has Water Sports Centres at Alleppey and Port Blair, where selected sportspersons are giving training in different water sports. Scholarships are also given to sportspersons who achieve excellence in National level schools games competitions, All India-Inter-University Competitions and State/National level competitions.

(c) to (e) Under the Department's Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure, Central assistance is provided upto a maximum of Rs. 43 lakhs and Rs. 20 lakhs, respectively for construction of swimming pools of sizes 50x21 meters and 25x21 meters to State Govts., Registered Voluntary Organisations and Local Statutory Bodies. This assistance is based upto 50 per cent of the estimated cost for plain areas and 75 per cent hilly/tribal areas.

Vishwa Bharati University

2920. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vishwa Bharati University at Santiniketan has been without a Vice-Chancellor for the past few months;

(b) whether the University has failed to hold its annual convocation since 1992; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the emergence of such a situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The Vice-Chancellor, Visva-Bharati, resigned from his post on mtdicial grounds which has been accepted by the visitor w.e.f. January 31, 1995.

(b) and (c) According to the information furnished by Visva-Bharati, the last Annual Convocation was held on May 5, 1993. During 1994 the Convocation could not be held due to certain unavoidable reasons including delay in publication of examination results, agitations frequently launched by certain groups from outside the Campus. The University has, however, started the process for holding the Convocation during 1995.

Establishment of private Universities

2921. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has already been reached to allow forty new universities to be established in the country under private auspices;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions under which these institutions would function; and

(c) the scope for admission to these institutions for students belonging to poor and middle class families who are unable to pay the high admission and tution fees that are to be charged?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

मध्य प्रदेश में "आपरेशन ब्लैक बोर्ड" योजना

2922. श्री शिव प्रसाद जनपुरिया: क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में "आपरेशन ब्लैक बोर्ड" योजना का कार्यान्वियन कब किया गया था और इस योजना में मध्य प्रदेश के जबलपुर जिले के कितने विकास खंडों को शामिल किया गया था ;

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश को इस योजना हेतु कितनी धनराशि उपलब्ध कराई गई है और इस योजना के प्रारम्भ से लेकर अब तक इस पर कितनी धनराशि व्यय की गयी है ;